

2015

Vermont Fertilizer Analysis Report



Vermont Agency of Agriculture,
Food and Markets
Agricultural Resource Management
116 State Street, Montpelier VT 05620-2901

Dear Reader:

- This annual report summarizes all the fertilizer sampling and analyses conducted by the Agency from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. The report includes a summary total for each company from which a sample was collected. All samples are listed individually. During 2015, a total of 103 fertilizer samples were collected and analyzed. For these samples, the Agency's laboratory conducted 329 chemical analyses for nitrogen, available phosphorous, potash, and numerous secondary nutrients such as calcium, magnesium, sulfur, iron, zinc, and boron.

The purpose of the sampling and testing is to ensure that fertilizer consumers are receiving products that conform to the label guarantee for all nutrients. During 2015, 34 samples failed to meet the label guarantee for one or more nutrients.

Fertilizer manufacturers are assessed penalties for product deficiencies which exceed the permitted analytical variance. The dollar value of a penalty is based on how far below the guarantee a sample is, the total weight of the lot sampled, and the cost of the nutrient that is deficient. If a product is consigned to a consumer, then the penalty is paid to that individual. If no consumer is identified, then the penalty is paid to the Agency's Fertilizer Program. In 2015, the total of violations resulted in \$4,438.42 in penalties which were charged to fertilizer manufacturers. Of this total, approximately \$4,100.36 were paid directly to consumers.

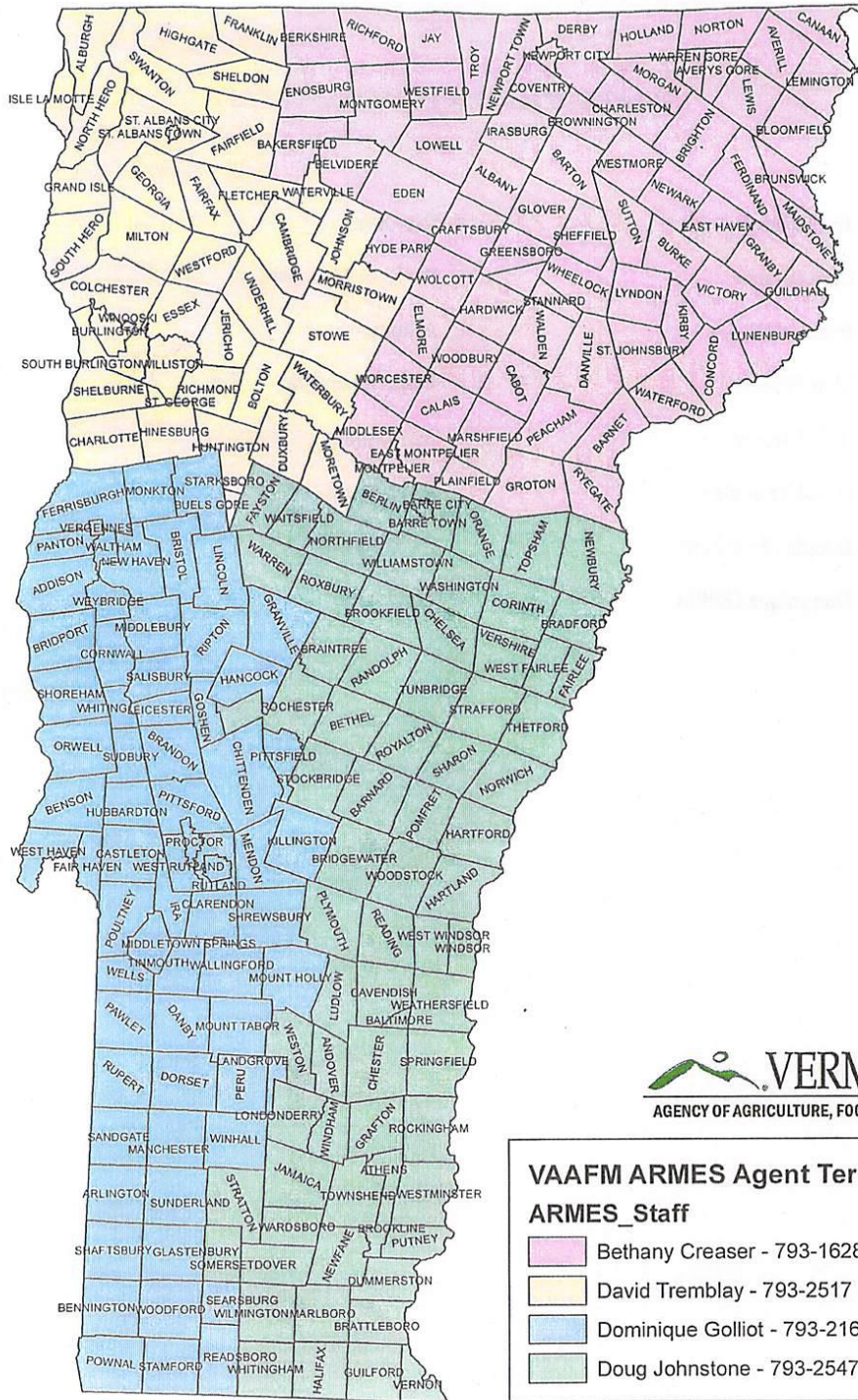
I hope you find this summary report helpful. If you have any questions regarding this report or Vermont's Fertilizer Program, please contact the Agricultural Resource Management Division; Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets; 116 State Street; Montpelier, VT 05620-2901 or call (802) 828-2431.

Sincerely,

Charles R. Ross Jr.

FERTILIZER PROGRAM STAFF

Jim Leland	Director
Cary Giguere	Program Manager
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Matt Wood	Field Supervisor
Bethany Creaser	Field Agent
Dominique Golliot	Field Agent
Douglas Johnstone	Field Agent
David Tremblay	Field Agent



2015 Fertilizer Summary Table

Fertilizer Companies with 10 or more samples in 2015.

Company	Samples Collected	Nutrients Analyzed	# of Sample Violations	Sample Violation %
Bourdeau Bros	12	37	3	25%
Northeast Ag	40	123	14	35%
Other	51	169	17	33%
Total	103	329	34	33%

2014 Fertilizer Summary

Samples Collected	Nutrients Analyzed	# of Sample Violations	Sample Violation %
294	1043	64	21.92%